

Response under 37 CFR 1.111
Serial No. 09/941,700
Attorney Docket No. 011076

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 30 are pending in the present application. No amendments are presented. It is respectfully submitted that this Response is fully responsive to the Office Action dated April 13, 2005.

As to the Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner sets forth the following rejections:

- 1) claims 1, 7, 11, 17, 21 and 27 stand rejected under 35 USC '102(b) as being anticipated by Hotta (U.S. Patent No. 4,686,673);
- 2) claims 2, 8, 9, 12, 18, 19, 22, 28 and 29 stand rejected under 35 USC '103(a) as being unpatentable Hotta in view of Takehisa;
- 3) claims 3, 4, 6, 13, 14, 16, 23, 24 and 26 stand rejected under 35 USC '103(a) as being unpatentable Hotta in view of Profumo;
- 4) claims 5, 15 and 25 stand rejected under 35 USC '103(a) as being unpatentable Hotta in view of Profumo in further view of Persson; and

- 5) claims 10, 20 and 30 stand rejected under 35 USC '103(a) as being unpatentable
Hotta in view of Kobayashi.

Each of these rejections is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 calls for *a transmission timing control unit controlling timings of signal transmission for respective ones of said plurality of mobile terminal devices having path division multiple connection to a specific time slot, to allow said plurality of mobile terminal devices to have their respective synchronization windows spaced from each other, as appropriate, within said specific time slot.* Independent claims 11 and 21 are drawn to similar embodiments.

For example, as shown in Fig. 2 of the present application, if multiple users 1 and 2 have path division multiple connections to a single time slot, two synchronization positions exist and correspondingly two synchronization windows exist. According to the present invention, for example, a synchronization window is controlled to prohibit multiple users from having their synchronization windows overlapping and thus prevent their synchronization positions from approaching each other or having an inverted time relationship.

The Examiner has rejected the independent claims 1, 11 and 21 as being anticipated by Hotta. Particularly, the Examiner has relied upon the statement in column 1, lines 67-68 of Hotta with regard to the claim recitation of the transmission timing control unit. However, it is submitted that Hotta merely discloses the control of the transmission timing of the synchronizing burst.

More specifically, Hotta is concerned with a) reaching a normal synchronous state between a synchronizing burst and a sync window and after the normal synchronous state is reached b) controlling the transmission timing such that the rear end of the sync window will be positioned at the center of the rear region (METE) of the metric pattern so as to minimize the burst length extending to the outside of the sync window thereby limiting the metric pattern to the rear region (METE) of the metric pattern, thus shortening the time required for metric pattern detection.

Moreover, the SDMA system of Hotta is configured to have a plurality of beam spot antennas each having a directivity (column 3, lines 21-58 of Hotta). It is to be noted, however, that each beam spot antenna of Hotta contains only a single user, while signals of multiple users are simultaneously received at the same antennas and then the received signals are separated according to the present invention.

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That is, Hotta is not concerned at all with respective synchronization windows of user mobile terminals being spaced from each other within a specific time slot, since Hotta is only concerned with controlling the position of a single sync window as evidenced by the disclosure of only a single sync window in Figs. 5b, 6a and 8a of Hotta.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that Hotta fails to disclose or fairly suggest the features of claim 1 concerning *a transmission timing control unit controlling timings of signal transmission for respective ones of said plurality of mobile terminal devices having path division multiple connection to a specific time slot, to allow said plurality of mobile terminal devices to have their respective synchronization windows spaced from each other, as appropriate, within said specific time slot.*

In view of the aforementioned remarks, Applicants submit that that the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

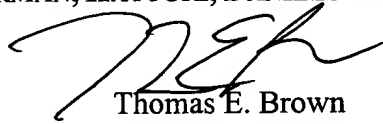
If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TEB', is written over the printed name of Thomas E. Brown.

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